





## Intimations.

## VICTORIA DISPENSARY.

## AERATED WATERS.

**WATER.**—The Water used is absolutely pure.

**STEAM PLANT.**—Of the latest and most powerful type.

**SUPERVISION.**—The whole process of manufacture is under the continuous supervision of a qualified English Chemist.

The **PRODUCT.**—Will bear comparison with the Waters made by the most noted makers in England.

DAKIN, CRUICKSHANK &amp; CO., LD.

VICTORIA DISPENSARY.

A. S. WATSON &amp; CO., LD.



CHEMISTS BY APPOINTMENT.

ESTABLISHED A.D. 1841.

MANUFACTURERS OF AERATED WATERS.

**OUR NEW FACTORY** has been recently refitted with automatic Steam Machinery of the latest and most approved kind, and we are well able to compete in quality with the best English makers:

The purest ingredients only are used, and the utmost care and cleanliness are exercised in the manufacture throughout.

## "BOMBAY SODAS."

We continue to supply large bottles as heretofore, *Free of Extra Charge*, to those of our Customers who prefer to have them to the ordinary size.

## COAST PORT ORDERS.

whenever practicable, are despatched by first steamer leaving after receipt of order.

For **COAST PORTS**, Waters are packed and placed on board ship at Hongkong prices, and the full amount allowed for Packages and Emplies when received in good condition.

Counterfoil Order Books supplied free on application.

Our Registered Telegraphic Address is "DISPENSARY, HONGKONG." And all signed messages addressed thus will receive prompt attention.

The following is a List of Waters always kept ready in Stock:—

PURE AERATED WATER  
SODA WATER  
LEMONADE  
POTASH WATER  
SELTZER WATER  
LITHIA WATER  
SARSAPARILLA WATER  
TONIC WATER  
LEMON SQUASH  
GINGER ALE  
RASPBERRYADE  
GINGERALE

No Credit given for Bottles that look dirty or greasy, or that appear to have been used for any other purpose than that of containing Aerated Waters, as such Bottles are never used again by us.

A. S. WATSON & CO., LIMITED,  
51 The Hongkong Dispensary, Hongkong.

## MARRIAGE.

At the Peak Church, Hongkong, on the 27th instant, **ALEXANDER ROSS**, son of the late David Ross, Esq., and Miss **ANNIE GEORGINA**, third daughter of John Bally, Esq., of Wiltshire.

## BIRTH.

May 26th, at 3, Knutsford Terrace, Kowloon, the wife of **BROOK PIORR**, Esq., of a son, prematurely.

The Hongkong Telegraph.

HONGKONG, SATURDAY, MAY 27, 1893.

## TELEGRAMS.

## GREEK FINANCES.

PARIS, May 27th.  
The Greek Loan has not been floated successfully, and the Ministry of Finance has resigned.

## CENTRAL AMERICA.

A revolution has broken out in Nicaragua.

## THE HERO OF DAKOMEY.

General Dodds has been accorded a brilliant reception on his arrival at Marseilles, from Africa.

## FRANCE.

The Chamber of Deputies will discuss the Budget on the 4th prox.

[This must be an error, as the 4th is Sunday.]

## THE SPANISH REPUBLICANS.

MADRID, May 27th.

The Municipal elections have had to be suspended, as the proceedings of the Congress were brought to an absolute standstill owing to the disturbances created by the Republican party.

## THE INFANTA.

H. R. H. the Infanta Eulalia has been taken ill at Havana, on her way to Chicago.

## THE PHILIPPINES.

May 27th.

The details of the important fiscal and administrative changes resolved on for the Philippines are now made public.

## TELEGRAPHIC EXTENSION.

A vote of \$100,000 has been passed for the Visayas (Philippines) cable.

## SPAIN.

The Queen-Regent to-day reviewed nine thousand troops in the Paseo de Recoletos, Madrid. The "march past" was magnificent. The King was present at the review, which was in honour of his seventh birthday.

## THE PHILIPPINES TARIFF.

The export duties on coffee, hemp, and tobacco are increased.

## VACCINATION.

A Vaccine Institute is to be established in the Philippines.

## LOCAL AND GENERAL.

The *Ceylon Observer* advocates the transfer of the government of that colony from the Colonial to the India Office.

An Emergency meeting of St. John Lodge, No. 618, S.C., will be held in Freemasons' Hall, Zealand Street, this evening, at 8.30 for 9 o'clock precisely. Visiting brethren are cordially invited.

The City Clock is apparently an Official Time-keeper. It struck the hour of six this evening when its hands, and all other well-regulated clock hands in Hongkong, were pointing to 6.15.

It is stated that since the decision has been arrived at for a joint mission of Russian and British officials to delimitate the Pamirs boundary, everything has again become quiet on the north-west border of India.

YESTERDAY the Captain-Superintendent of Police celebrated the Queen's birthday by giving a dinner to the Inspectors, a distinctly popular and praiseworthy innovation which ought to become permanent.

ST. PETER'S SHAMEN'S CHURCH.—The Mission steam-launch *Day Spring* will call alongside vessels hoisting colors pennant C, between 9 and 10.30 a.m. on Sunday, to convey men ashore to the 11 o'clock service, returning about 1.30 p.m.

MR. BIBBY, manager of the Raub Gold Mining Company, states in a recent letter that his neighbours at Pongm have been doing remarkably well of late. This is good news from an independent and thoroughly competent authority.

At the Harbour Office to-day, before Capt. Ramsey, George Murray, A.B., British four-master, *Snad* (Capt. Morgan) was charged with refusing duty. The evidence showed that he was a private mail carrier, and he was sent to gaol for seven days.

YESTERDAY afternoon, in honour of the Queen's birthday, the whole military force of the Colony, including the Shanghai Regiment, the Hongkong Regiment, Artillery, Engineers, and Volunteers, paraded on the Praya Reclamation at five o'clock, when a royal salute and *feu de joie* were fired.

MR. T. G. KEANE, whose imprisonment for a period of twelve months in Victoria Gaol, in connection with the *Mamoon* shooting affair at Sandakan, created some sensation in shipping circles about a year ago, will be liberated on Monday morning. We understand that a number of Mr. Keane's friends have arranged to entertain him at breakfast shortly after his release.

An appeal has been made by an influential committee of Mase ladies, in aid of the Chinese Sisters of the Holy Infancy in that colony. Any contributions to this most deserving charity may be sent direct to the Asylum in Macao, Mr. Filomeno de Ganga, Alveston Terrace, and the Lady Superiores of the Italian Convent, Calne Road, Hongkong, or to any member of the Committee. It is intended to hold a Fancy Fair at Macao on June 18th, the entire proceeds of which will be devoted to the Asylum.

A VERY odd and somewhat remarkable case of hydrophobia is reported from Lahore. It appears that Mrs. Doyle, wife of a railway employer, was carrying a dog, when the animal *licked her hand*, on which was a small open sore. Later on this dog bit some other dogs, all of which went mad. Shortly afterwards Mrs. Doyle was taken ill, and died after suffering from paroxysms for three days. It is stated distinctly that the unfortunate victim was not bitten by the dog; it merely licked her hand and exhibited no symptoms of madness.

THE Hon. Treasurer of the Alice Memorial Hospital begs to acknowledge, with thanks, the following donations to the funds of the Hospital:—  
H. Skott ..... \$100  
Victor H. Dixon ..... 50  
Chun U-fai ..... 100  
H. Stoller ..... 100  
W. MacBean ..... 500  
J. Matheson ..... 500  
A. Rodger ..... 500  
R. C. Vanis ..... 500

A "City of the Future" will be shown at the World's Fair, which is planned for the year 1900. The *Illustrated News* proposes a departure from the usual type arrangement of miniature models, Eiffel towers, etc., and advocates the erection of a city on a site sufficiently large to illustrate practically all the most prominent new inventions, as well as the fruits of modern electro-technique. The cost of erecting this future model city is to be covered by renting the houses, hotels, etc., as well as all the stores to the exhibitors. At the close of the Exposition the entire site, with buildings, etc., will be utilized as the nucleus for a new quarter of the city of Paris.

ALL description of coins known to the American system were struck off last March, together with the remainder of the new Columbian coins. Altogether there were 10,738,022 coins made during the month, including 5,261,020 cents. There were 1,062,105 of the Columbian coins, which retail at \$1 per piece, a gift of the Government to the World's Fair enterprise. The coinage for March and for the first nine months of the fiscal year compares as follows:—

	For July 1 to March 31.	March 31 to June 30.
Double Eagles	\$1,150,360	\$17,000,060
Eagles	300,220	2,817,230
Half Eagles	535,135	2,447,840
Quarter Eagles	75	6,777
Standard Dollars	140,320	5,108,570
Half Dollars	160	337,005
Half Dollars Dollars	1,031,053	1,488,143
Quarter Dollars	76,080	734,553
Dimes	50,933	408,579
Five Cents	80,751	408,579
Cents	5,670	369,317
Total	\$4,421,705	\$32,608,123
1891-92	\$1,591,896	\$5,488,124

THIS afternoon a Police Tennis Tournament was commenced on the fine courts at the Central Station. Several handsome prizes have been offered by the Captain Superintendent and Mrs. May, besides others presented out of the Recreation Club funds, and there is every prospect of a most successful series of annual competitions being fairly set on foot.

MR. MCALMONT's colt *Isinglass*, ridden by T. Loates, started favorite for the Two Thousand Guineas, the betting being 5 to 4 on him against the field. The bay son of *Isomony* and *Deadlock* secured a clever victory by three-quarters of a length, and he will probably win the Derby next Wednesday, although the chances of Reaburn and Ravensbury are not to be despised.

At the Magistrate to-day, before Captain Hastings, a gun lacer of the Asiatic Artillery was charged by another member of the same corps with theft of \$7 and a quantity of jewellery. Mr. E. Robinson was for the prosecution and Mr. J. J. Francis, Q.C., for the defence. The proceedings lasted almost all day, and attracted the attention of apparently the whole Indian community of Hongkong. Ultimately the prisoner was committed for trial.

WRITING under date May 27th Mr. Bibby, manager at the Raub Co's mines, says that the lode at the Raub Hole has improved, and in the South Drive is 2 in. to 18 in. thick. The extremely hard ground at Bukit Komang is likely to cause some trouble. Mr. Bibby says great stress on having struck gold-bearing stuff in No. 2 cross-cut level, 120 feet deep. He hopes to clean-up about May 31st, and expects that he will bring one thousand ounces of gold with him to Singapore, instead of eight hundred ounces as formerly estimated.

ONE of the best of Mr. Adrian Ross's clever verses in "Morocco Bound" is that which attempts to forecast the new musical force, the Parliament on College Green. Dublin. The debate on the second reading of the Irish Whiskey Bill is graphically described, the last stanza running as follows:—

Then an Orangeman from Derry and a member from the South,  
Took their first to move the Closure upon each other's mouth;  
And before the learned Speaker could persuade the House to rise,  
All the Aired had broken out, and the noble Irish Bill  
Then the Opposition went for it, the Government for it, and  
And they argued out the question by the light of broken bones;  
For they fought with all the force the noble Irish Bill  
Till half the seats were empty, and the members all were full!

"THE best laid schemes of mice and men," said Robbie Burns, "often go awry." It is admirably expressed truth that was strongly in evidence on Whit-Monday when the Warrant Officers, Staff Sergeants and Sergeants of the Royal Artillery, and a large number of their friends, both military and civilian—all about seventy persons—were assembled at Murray Pier with the intention of proceeding in a large steam-launch, specially chartered for the occasion, on a visit to the famed Tamboch Silver Mines, near the Bogie forts in the Canton river.

The projected voyage had scarcely commenced when the boldest elements brought it to a sudden and unexpected termination. It was blowing such a howling gale of wind, with a big sea, that a comfortable trip and an enjoyable picnic were quite out of the question, and the order to "about ship and return direct to the starting point" was a wise decision. By noon the R.A. men and their guests were comfortably "at home" in the commodious mess-room at North Barracks, where an excellentiffin was shortly afterwards served to and thoroughly enjoyed by over a hundred persons. After this the mess-room was cleared and a most agreeable afternoon and evening were passed, the entertainment including songs, recitations, speeches, and, last but not least, the merry dance. The hospitality of the R.A. hosts was most liberal and was heartily appreciated by all present. The party broke up about 11 p.m., after the expression of good wishes on all sides.

RE the Franco-Siamese trouble, the Singapore *Free Press* of May 18th says:—"We gather by that morning's telegrams that there is full corroboration of hostile contact between the French and Siamese on the Mekong, above the island of Khong. A telegram was sent home to the Foreign Office by Capt. Jones, V.C., the British *Chargé d'Affaires* at Bangkok, notifying that the French troops, chiefly Cambodians and Annamese, in following up the Siamese retreating, had been surrounded, and that four lieutenants had been killed and the French force generally cut up. A telegram has also been sent to the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank to the same effect. As matters are apparently turning to the disadvantage of the French, it is noted that the presence of H.M.S. *Swift*, lying as she does between the French gunboat *Lutin* and the King's palace, and opposite the British Legation, is considered by the Siamese as a good omen. It is a fact that the recent scare which kept the country people from sending their rice down to Bangkok has been stopped by the presence of the British gunboat, a direct result of the French advance. The situation is altogether one of great tension, and it is not unlikely that the Siamese are apparently turning to the King with great readiness for support. It is said that the King himself is almost ready to welcome British protection as a final solution of an undoubtedly difficult position, but the Siamese princes hesitate, as they fear that their status and influence would be thereby compromised."

GREAT was the amazement of all Europe when, at about the close of the last century, William Strickland, an Englishman, was seen in the streets of London, carrying a large bundle of sticks under his arm, and a small box in his hand. He was dressed in a simple, but not unbecoming, manner, and he was accompanied by a small, dark, and somewhat suspicious-looking man. The story of the discovery of the first dynamite is a most interesting one, and it is a pity that it is so little known. The story is as follows:—

THERE are 18,000 inhabitants in Ramong; and it is said there are 250,000 waterfalls to protect them from the rains.

THE Agents (Messrs. Gibb, Livingston & Co.) inform us that the "Ben" Line steamer *Benlawry*, from Antwerp and London, left Singapore on the 25th inst., for this port.

SCENE: an Indian race course.—Excited Judge, leaving the box after two rounds has run a dead-heat, remarked, "Well, I saw it made a dead-heat of it." "Why?" innocently asked a friend, "It made no difference to you?" "Oh didn't it?" replied the Judge, "I had a pot of money on him."

CORRESPONDENTS are respectfully requested to send all communications *written on one side of the paper only*. The *Hongkong Telegraph* is always open for the publication of any correct and reliable information likely to be of public interest, but under no circumstances will contributions marked "Communicated," or "Contributed," be accepted. The Editor of this journal prefers to take the sole responsibility for everything that appears in its columns.

NOT so many years ago, says the *Chesham Engineer*, a finely educated native woman earned \$3 a week as a typewriter. She left teaching for the new occupation in high style. She could read and answer business letters in French and German. No such "plums" are in the profession nowadays. It has been raised, not exactly by Chinese cheap labor, but by the most extraordinary influx of girls. Prices have fallen with a dull thud. You can get the French and German writer, with shorthand thrown in, for about \$3 a \$5, and the plain, ordinary typewriter, without the frills, \$5 to \$7. I know a man, pretty expert, willing to work his machine for \$12 a week. He's been out of work half the time for the last two years. Typewriting, bonaparte, almost anything is a better trade for this now. The inextinguishable law of supply and demand finds away, even through its victims be a sweet young thing with fluffy bangs and an apron.

## OUR LOCAL PARLIAMENT.

After a rather lengthy interval of rest the Legislative Council resumed active operations last Thursday afternoon. The whole of the Official members, including his Excellency the Governor, were present, but the unofficial representatives were *minus* the Hon. C. P. Chater, absent owing to a sharp attack of illness, and the "member for Jardine's," Mr. J. J. Kowick, who was doubtless otherwise engaged in preparing an effective counterblast to the notorious allegations made by the late Chairman of the Hongkong Chamber of Commerce, "Tosh" (that ill, on his last public appearance in this colony).

After the customary preliminaries, the Colonial Secretary (Mr. O'Brien) laid on the table a statement of the revenue and expenditure for 1892; the annual reports of the Harbour Master, Postmaster General, Sanitary Superintendent, and Colonial Veterinary Surgeon; and the special reports and recommendations to the Governor, including his Excellency the Governor, were present, but the unofficial representatives were *minus* the Hon. C. P. Chater, absent owing to a sharp attack of illness, and the "member for Jardine's," Mr. J. J. Kowick, who was doubtless otherwise engaged in preparing an effective counterblast to the notorious allegations made by the late Chairman of the Hongkong Chamber of Commerce, "Tosh" (that ill, on his last public appearance in this colony).

Mr. E. R. Bellillo rose to give notice of a question he intended to ask at the next meeting of Council. It is a curious question and one which probably no person in the colony, save and excepting the hon. member for Ophim, would ever have dreamt of suggesting. Mr. Bellillo wants to know—although he must have known all about it years past if he has studied the course of public events—what the terms of any understanding or agreement between China and Great Britain, or between the Chinese Imperial Maritime Customs and the Hongkong Government, in connection with the recently opened lighthouse on Waglan Island, as he is unable to understand why China should have gratuitously lighted the entrance to "Hongkong" "out of sheer love to England," and thinks he is justified in suggesting that this useful aid to coast navigation has been carried out either to make it appear Chinese or that Hongkong is still part and parcel of the Chinese Empire. He then proceeded to observe to the intention of the blockade of the colony by Chinese cruisers. Mr. Bellillo may be Chairman of the Hongkong, Canton and Macao Steamboat Co., but he evidently knows very little of international reciprocity as regards aids to navigation on rock-bound coasts, and if he is not acquainted with the perfectly open negotiations which preceded the construction of Waglan Lighthouse, that is his fault. This is a question of no doubt well-meaning gentleman's intentions as to the Chinese Government's motive, in carrying out a work so unselfishly useful, are absurdly childish and we leave him with perfect confidence to the tender mercies of Mr. Secretary O'Brien.

The Registrar General (Mr. J. H. Stewart Lockhart) moved the first reading of *The Po Leung Kuk Incorporation Ordinance*, and in accordance with recognised parliamentary practice reserved any remarks until its second reading. Dr. Ho Kai seconded the motion without further comment; but this procedure apparently did not suit the views of the Colonial Secretary, who proceeded, without rhyme or reason, as he expressed it, "to say two or three words on behalf of the Government." Why Sir William Robinson did not at once rule his subordinate out of order can only be explained in one of two ways, and it is present we prefer not to define them. What could the Government desire to say on the first reading of a bill that could not be held over until the debate on the second reading? What right had the Governor to make all recognised rules of parliamentary procedure for the only law which is the purpose of permitting the Colonial Secretary to sit, his second-hand sarcasms—and they are exceedingly weak even when gauged by a second-class standard—at the expense of the Po Leung Kuk, his gratuitous and entirely uncalculated references to the opprobrious "H-term" "Secret Society" used towards those immaculate goddesses of the distressed female youth and beauty of Kwangtung when they do not to this British colony were already in print on the Council table, and were certain to be published in twenty-four hours in all the newspapers in South China. Mr. Whitehead's protest

on a point of order was thoroughly justified, and his Excellency's hesitating, halting, and incoherent rolling was only one more proof of a belief, now almost universal in the colony, that Sir William Robinson, with all his amiable social qualities, is a very weak and unreliable administrator. However, Mr. O'Brien's "general statement on behalf of Government" was neither a gem of oratory nor a very creditable exhibition from a public man, and it is a pity that an official who is generally supposed to view the colony through the glasses of the guide, through the Governor, the chairman of the colony. All he said meant nothing but gas; it could have lost none of its effect by being beld over; it would have been better left unsaid.

Mr. Whitehead proposed that the first reading of the Po Leung Kuk Bill be postponed until after the reports of the members of the Special Committee had been circulated and studied; and this amendment Mr. Bellillo seconded. On the face of it, that seems to have been a most reasonable proposal; but "the official phalanx," like the Roman legions of old, would not be denied, and the figures on division were 7 to 2. Dr. Ho Kai voted with the officials for some inextinguishable reason, possibly only comprehensible to the Celestial mind; but our excellent friend, the really clever and well-meaning representative of Chinese interests, imagines that any good can come of his assisting an official clique to force an ordinance upon the colony by weight of numbers, without giving the rate-payers time for due consideration, an ordinance that involves a considerable expenditure of public money, he will find before long that he has made a grievous mistake. Pure "cussedness" is neither statesmanship nor diplomacy.

At a meeting of the Finance Committee, held immediately after the adjournment of the Council, the Colonial Secretary gave another exhibition of that contemptible meanness and utter selfish spirit which have so conspicuously characterized his public utterances since his arrival in Hongkong. The question was a financial one, in which the Governor recommended the Council to vote some \$13,000 for the extension of MacDonnell and Austin Roads at Kowloon. The vote was most strongly approved of by the Director of Public Works (Mr. F. A. Cooper); the desirability, nay, the urgent necessity of the proposed road extension was recognised and admitted on all hands, and yet Mr. C. P. O'Brien, C.B.E., thought fit to dwell on the fact that the construction of the new road had been asked for by Mr. Chater, and Mr. Bellillo, and to make special reference to the appropriation—he made it a positive assertion—that it would "be of special advantage to the Charbonnages enterprise." His further remark that the success of "Charbonnages" would benefit the colony at large, probably was intended to mean something, but what that something was is a secret of which the Honourable Mr. O'Brien is the sole recipient. This was the first time the Colonial Secretary has, under the convenient cloak of duty, attempted cheap sarcasm at the expense of Mr. Chater, but if he is wise he will make it his last, at least until he is in a position to show good cause for insinuations that are grossly unfavourable and, so far as can be ascertained, wholly unwarranted. Mr. O'Brien bears the reputation of being an efficient, painstaking and thoroughly reliable public officer; giving him credit for all that, we can only regard it as a matter for regret that he did not leave his offensive official manners and unnecessarily aggressive methods in Canton, wither and die in the spicy breezes of Delisle.

THE RATEPAYERS AND THEIR REPRESENTATIVES.

In response to the address of confidence forwarded on the 18th February last by Mr. W. Danby, on behalf of the ratepayers of Hongkong, to the Unofficial members of the Legislative Council, the following letter has been sent to us for publication:—

Hongkong, 24th May, 1893.  
To William Danby, Esq.  
Sir.—We have the honor to acknowledge the receipt through you of an address signed by over two hundred resident Ratepayers of Hongkong, thanking us for our efforts in the Legislative Council to promote economy and efficiency and the Government service of Hongkong, and the ability of the Unofficial members and for the community a more potent voice in the administration of affairs.

We beg of you to convey to those gentlemen who have signed the address our very hearty thanks for their very great kindness and consideration. The expression of their satisfaction and approval is very welcome to us and will immensely strengthen our hands in future proceedings.

In what we have already done one of our principal objects has been to demonstrate clearly the insufficiency of the unofficial element in the Legislative Council to give effect to the popular voice, or even to secure for it adequate consideration on the part of those in authority, and if we have succeeded in bringing prominently before the inhabitants of Hongkong the need for some reform in the direction of more effective representation, we have done well.

We apologise for the delay that has taken place in acknowledging receipt of the address. We have waited in the hope that we might be able to convey to you the information that our survey for an independent commission to investigate and report on the public expenditure has been accepted, but we are as yet without any reply to our Memorial of 12th January last to the most Honorable the Marquis of Ripon, Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies, although we are still in expectation of a favorable response.

We shall be encouraged to further efforts by the support rendered by the Ratepayers' address.

We are, Sir,

Your most obedient humble servants,  
(Signed) C. P. CHATER,  
HO KAI,  
T. H. WHITEHEAD,  
E. R. BELLILLO.

## THE IRISH GLOBE-TROTTER.

It's mighty obliged to you I am for publishing in your issue of April 23rd the first chapter of me travels and experiences. Of course the only reason I had in the world for writing that same name in the dist, like other globe-trotters, to see me name in print, and it pleased I am to find you were so mighty particular with the O's, for what would the cold family think if you had dropped it like a hot spot, as we say in Ireland, for sure it's the only legacy the father left me, and it's my name to the senate to know when I am elected to parliament that every member who names me must begin with a good round exclamation. But to continue me discourse with the philosophical reasoning and versatility of the Irish race, it is necessary I should here refer back to that same first chapter, as I am told by the friend Dinah that it's my eye've been with certain German dampen.

"Be aisy, will you?" said he, "arrab, be aisy now, and if ye can't be aisy, be aisy as ye can, for by the holy key it's powerful, had taste to begrudge any decent gentleman his living."

"True enough for you there," said I, "and it's myself begrudge no man his bread and butter, but I do object to our Government in our colleges where they can be usefulness earn their pay, but don't let them treat us to shame."

"They are hard words," said he.  
"They are that same," said I; "but sure I'm dealing with hard facts. Arrab, you are not to suppose that my reasoning is narrowed to the deformity of personalities the sorrow fear of it."

Well, so much for that, and if it's all the same to you, Mister Editor, I would like to say a few words about the Rate-payers' meeting at the City Hall last week. I was there to time with me shillelagh ready for ruckions; the bill of fare was purty and, as requested, I selected fifteen of the covers that were all ready dished, when we were told that fifteen were too many to digest at one sitting and it was best to be content with five. "Ob, murther," said I to myself, "this must be owing to the bad times, when they cut the bill of fare by two-thirds. But you will say this is not fairly within the province of globe-trotting idiosyncrasies, and fearing you will be after slogging ink at me, or cut up my shillelagh, I will let go my hold of the Ratepayers' Association, for the present anyway, more particularly as am getting to the middle of me book and its about time to begin it.

Now, proud as we may be of our civilizing influence in these parts, the love of fair-play which governs the mind of a veritable Briton compels me to many an aside, and if I do not earn the applause of the entire audience some of my gentlest readers may give their whilst the adverse section may retreat from catcalls!

With a grateful feeling for this anticipated indulgence, the logical sequence to my reasoning in this manner is, to draw comparisons between the cupertations of the Chinese and those of our advanced civilization.

In my young days when I tramped to school with a sod of turf under me arm, the joyousness of me young heart in keeping with the song of the early lark, and the dewy buttercups and daisies, in a multitude with its innocence and me humble lot in life, many a time and many a time had my young brain been perfectly filled with their stories of Mythology that form the very foundation of our advanced education, the rosmarey-like fictions remaining with us in later years, and as my "History of Hongkong" is to be the standard work for the Colony, the beautiful (if outrageous and miraculous) origin of this old rock will be found in the following sentences, so that every College don may have a copy of it in his breeches' pocket—the more betoken that I am dedicating me book to Victoria College.

After a power of fustian collecting the following items of fact from the General's book and the Governor's chair cooler, I will now give you the origin of Hongkong.

Hats off if you please, gentlest readers, for be-the-hocky power, my winged flight of fancy approaches the abode of the gods, and this is the true fiction. (Put in a golden caplet to begin with, if you please, Mr. Compositor.)

"Joss," who is second cousin to thundering Jove, sat upon the verandah of his abode of bliss. It is not for the likes of me to go further than that and describe the interior of the dwelling, though I wish to do so, I often and often build castles in the air, and entangle fancy in their spacious halls.

"The Queen of Heaven," who is as fair as the most refined thought can picture her, with almond-shaped eyes of Celestial brightness, sat quite adjacent to Joss, for sure it was their *luna de miel*, that sweet season of dawning life and of soft pleasure, when by holy compact life is welded to life "for better or for worse, for richer or for poorer until death do them part."

But since the gods are immortal, and do no playing for their living, this position of me pining imagery is mixed, which goes to show the impotence of mortals when writing of the infinite, and I must leave my gentlest readers to fix things to suit their own glibal fancies. But any way, the scene around Mr. and Mrs. Joss was worthy of the gods. It consisted of the lovely Valley of Content sheltered by the lofty hills of Wisdom; and to enliven this heavenly landscape, there flows on a crystal stream a babbling stream of wit, which is indelible; and toward it flows erratically over pebbles of thought, the sparkling eddies from which, expanding into rings of rippling water, tap a boundless shore. The atmosphere through bore the rosy tints of morn, calmed by the thought of the good and just, was suddenly awakened into reverberating echoes—for Joss commenced to sneeze.

"Begorra," said the Queen of Heaven, "it's a cold you've got."  
"Oh! hehah, I have," said he, "and I'll just take a trip to the mortals below in China, where I am sure to find a hot place and can sweat it out."

"Have a cock-tail first," said the Queen of Heaven, "for it's a long flight to them



"I mean," said he, "manifestations of Material Spirits, that turn tables and move about articles of furniture."

"Oh, truth I do," said I; "sorrow a lad in the country bates me in knowledge of it; sure the other day Dianis was having the side of an argument with me, for I wanted to fix up a bit of a shindy for pastime, things being so slow in Hongkong, and so I told him to pretend to be a Government official and I was to be an unofficial member of the legislature."

"Indeed and I won't act an official part," said he; "what do you take me for, and I a decent fish-lad?"

"Sure, I know you're that same," said I, "and it's sorry I am to hurt your feelings, but only pretend, you know."

So he pretended, and then we did send the tables spinning, and sure the chairs went off as they were, and the table a bit of a move, but it was a shillelagh, quiet, for out it went spontaneously, right and left, and only rested of its own accord upon the nose of Dianis, but when it struck out in return, smiling all the time, the sweet devil! Oh! it was beautiful.

"I have no doubt of it," said he, "but you have misunderstood my question. I mean ghostly visitants."

"Oh! them Spirits!" said I; "sure and I thought it was the material you were meaning all the time."

PATRICK O'FLAHERTY.

## LOSS OF A PILGRIM STEAMER.

The old P. & O. steamship *Katia*, which was engaged by a Bombay firm to take pilgrims to Mecca, has been totally lost. The following are the details:

The *Katia* left Bombay on the 12th ultimo with 770 pilgrims and a crew of 80 men. All went well till the evening of the 17th April, when the coal-tenders reported to Mr. Broly, chief officer, who was on watch, that smoke was coming from the bunkers, and in consequence water was poured into the water deck; but it having no effect in checking the fire, the lower hold was opened. They then found that the fire was raging in the cargo, which seemed to have been smouldering. To put out the fire the cargo was used every endeavour, and in removing the cargo were well assisted by the Bokhara pilgrims, though on the first alarm many of the pilgrims were panic-stricken.

The vessel was at the time 150 miles from land, and Captain Schumacher, finding the flames gaining, steered for the Arabian coast and early next morning ran his ship on the beach. By 9.30 the bridge was well alight, and before nightfall all had left the steamer, which by the morning of the 19th had been burnt to the water's edge and the cargo destroyed. In attempting to save the burning ship, a number of pilgrims rushed to one of the boats, which capsized, and twenty of their number were drowned. The rest of the passengers and crew reached the shore in safety with the greater portion of their belongings, and pitched a temporary camp on the beach about three miles from Merbat. The same morning a party of Bedouins tried to surprise the camp, but were driven off. Afterwards several friendly natives arrived from Merbat and offered to protect the crew and pilgrims on the latter following them. Their offer was accepted, the pilgrims being then escorted to Merbat, where they were placed in safety by being located on the beach.

In the meantime the *Shelk* of Dhofar arrived in a tugboat and Captain Schumacher arranged with him to convey the crew and officers to Muscat in his craft. The Captain and crew left Merbat on the 22nd and arrived near Muscat on Sunday, the 30th, when Chief Officer Broly, owing to the tugboat becoming becalmed, proceeded to Muscat in the boat.

The following telegram was received from Muscat by Messrs. Cassin from Capt. Schumacher: "Dear Sir, 223 pilgrims and myself have arrived. Crew following in another steamer. Remaining pilgrims left for Muscat in tugboat. *Katia* beached, gutted out by fire and half-full of water near Merbat."

## BERIBERI IN THE STRAITS.

Dr. Fox of Penang in his annual report on the Yeng Wah Hospital, gives the following interesting particulars regarding that mysterious disease beriberi:

The admissions for beriberi in 1892 were nearly the same as for 1891, but the type was of a very severe kind. Many cases of the acute form were admitted, and usually proved fatal. The acute variety of beriberi has been gradually becoming less and less, but during 1892 it increased very considerably among the Chinese, and this is why the death rate of beriberi is so much higher than it has been for years.

Year. Admitted. Deaths. Percentage.  
1885 .. 1,258 .. 77 .. 6.12  
1887 .. 1,204 .. 83 .. 6.83  
1888 .. 834 .. 50 .. 6.01  
1889 .. 551 .. 82 .. 14.88  
1890 .. 374 .. 33 .. 8.82  
1891 .. 103 .. 24 .. 23.30  
1892 .. 1,364 .. 102 .. 7.48

In a minute paper (C. S. 346/93) Dr. Ridley, Director of Gardens and Forests, Singapore, states as follows:—"We administered iodine, 5 drops first day, 4 second day, and 3 third, and rubbed it on the legs. In three days there was no more loss, and the swelling and puffiness disappeared." It is just quite possible that the swelling and puffiness were due to excessive walking, and that the rest that was given to men when under the iodine treatment did them more good than anything. Two cases of acute beriberi were put on the iodine treatment at directed by Dr. Ridley; one died and the other recovered.

The pathology of beriberi is now being worked at by a large number of investigators, and the conclusions arrived at are remarkable for their want of unanimity. Thus, Lacerda considers the blood to be at fault; he states that an ascomycetes which exists in the soil, or may be connected with the food (rice or fish), is the real cause of the disease.

Pekelhaar attributes the disease to a dipterus, *Ogata*, to bacilli, and Taylor to a spillover. Dr. Rowell and Surgeon-General Takaki put the causation of this disease to the rice diet, which is deficient as a nitrogenous diet. Gripeke and Mura trace the disease to bad fish, *Slimo*, and Schenck attributes the disease to a miasma, while Weintraub traces it to a scent which enters the body through the respiratory system.

I have mentioned all these different causes just to show how very uncertain the knowledge of the real cause of beriberi is. Dr. Scott, who was for some years District Surgeon of Kuala Lumpur, where he had considerable opportunities of seeing beriberi in its different stages, considers that the nervous system is affected by the rays of the sun striking the skin and the deeper nervous structures when the men are at work at the bottom of a dike.

From my experience of beriberi I think there is a great deal in what Dr. Scott says. I have often seen Chinese come into hospital with large blisters on their skin, caused by the sun. This theory would also account for the fact that women and children are not attacked, although they have the same food and live in the same surroundings. The Tamil coolies are usually

exposed to the sun quite as much as Chinese, but their skin contains more pigment, and they are therefore not so susceptible to the rays of the sun.

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## BUSINESS AND INDUSTRIAL.

A good skeleton is quoted at \$40. England has quarried a 35-ton stone. Looms are now run by electric-power. The United States have 43,000,000 sheep. An ostrich-feather rug is the latest luxury. Half the ocean ships are owned in England. Iowa raised 20,000,000 bushels of corn last year.

There are said to be over 50,000 rag-pickers in Paris. Germany imported 45,500,000 bushels of grain in 1892.

Chinese farmers are getting a footing in Montana. New Zealand has produced \$350,000,000 worth of gold. The United States produce 45,000,000 tons of hay annually.

Nearly 1,000 towns in the United States use the electric light. There are about 300 women undertakers in the United States.

The largest loan made in New York last year was for \$1,250,000. The cotton crop of the United States in 1892 was 9,058,707 bales.

In 1891, \$16,000,000 worth of property was insured against fire. In 1890, 24,306,905 gallons of wine were made in the United States.

The annual cost of fencing in the United States is \$30,000,000. Two of Carnegie's big Homestead mills will be operated solely by electricity.

Scandinavian sailors are said to predominate on vessels of nearly all nationalities. Three hundred and eleven societies of women in New York expend \$2,200,000 annually.

The United States Post Office Department uses more than one million pounds of twine a year. In 1890 the United States produced hardware valued at \$100,000,000 in 1888 at \$90,000,000.

When steel pens were first made, sixty years ago, their cost was 150 times the present price. Berlin has the widest train roof on the Continent—that at Anhalt Station, which is 198 feet 5 inches.

The U. S. Government still possesses 955,175.933 acres of land, more than one-third of which is in Alaska. The treasury vaults of the United States now contain about \$475,000,000 of silver, including bars, dollars, and subsidiary coin.

More powder was burned in making the Hoosac tunnel than in the War of the Rebellion. A large coal mine uses almost as much. It takes a gallon of milk to make a pound of cheese. Canada and Denmark eat more butter and cheese than any other nation does.

Under the regime of President Diaz, Mexico's annual exports have increased \$30,000,000. The export of coffee has doubled in the last four years.

Four and a half million pens are made every day, requiring three tons of steel. Birmingham, with fourteen factories, produces one-half of the total product.

The U. S. Naval Hydrographic Service calculates that in recent years there has been an annual total loss of 2,172 vessels, representing in value about \$100,000,000. The annual loss of life is placed at 70,000.

New York City has at least 100,000 children workers, 8,000 of whom make envelopes at 23 cents a thousand. There are 25,000 working women, some of whom work on boys' waistcoats at 21 cents a dozen.

Of the \$150,000,000 of life insurance written in the world, \$5,000,000 is placed in the

Unit d States. Between the years 1880 and 1890 there was \$3,500,000,000 new life insurance written in that country and but \$1,000,000,000 in the whole British Empire.

## DOES TERROR KILL?

Anguish of mind has driven many to suicide, anguish of body never. This proves that the health of the mind is of far more consequence to our happiness than the health of the body, although both are deserving of much more attention than either receives. In protracted cases of disease it is the continual mental strain and worry that enervates and finally undermines the whole system and destroys the vital spark. How many men apparently healthy to-day are lying in a cold grave a week hence. They are negligent of their health and think they can shake every attack off, the effect of such foolishness becomes apparent to every man sooner or later, and wise is he who never neglects the symptoms of disease but takes precautions, as did a gentleman who writes:—"I write to let you know that I am a patron of your wonderful Clements Tonic; I have been a great sufferer, and read of Mrs. Moller's cure in the newspapers, her case was nothing to mine, but thank God I through her letter I am cured, and after the doctors had pronounced sentence of death on me, I am very grateful to Mrs. Moller for her letter. I have great pleasure in adding my testimony to that of the many others cured of serious diseases by the use of Clements Tonic; I have suffered terribly from liver and kidney disease. Two years ago my strength began rapidly to decline, I had dull headache, completely lost my appetite, and was almost blind—(fuller of sight is a symptom of Bright's disease—Ed.). I had tiger claw cramps in the calves of my legs, and severe rheumatic pains, followed by diarrhoea, strength continued to fall, accompanied by extreme pallor of the face, puffed under the eyes and papulous swellings of legs, knees and ankles, and my whole body was swollen to a wonderful size; sharp shooting pains pierced the heart and frequently chills and fever would attack me. The swelling was so bad that I was afraid to even drink a glass of water. I consulted a doctor, and he examined my water, and he said it was a bad case of liver disease, and also Bright's disease of the kidneys; he prescribed medicine and liniments with mustard baths. I said, 'Doctor, if you will cure me, I will pay you what you want.' He replied, 'I can make out no more of you now.' I said, 'That is very hard.' 'I never like to take a man's money,' said he, 'without telling him the truth, and I will come to you at any hour of the night you may send for me.' He thought I should soon die, I gave him a treatment a fair trial but the swelling of my body increased so much that I had to remain in bed; the pains increased and extended all down the side, and my eyesight was now almost completely gone. I consulted another eminent medical man who after examining me and testing my urine, said I had Bright's disease. I asked if he could cure me, he said he would do his best, and if I would continue his medicine I should improve; I did so and it had but little more effect than water. Two friends of mine called my attention to Mrs. Moller's letter in the paper who had been cured of the same disease by Clements Tonic. I procured a supply, and taking it strictly in accordance with the directions, the swelling began to go down, I kept up the use of Clements Tonic, and now, thank God, I am cured, my swellings have all subsided, my eyesight is as good as ever. I took a good many bottles, but that is nothing as my case was very bad, and I cannot describe its value—Yours truly, Thomas N.W.W. Sufferers must see that they get Clements Tonic only, as many swindlers are on the market. F. M. Clements, 213 A'Beckett-street, Melbourne."

MAY 26th. The great value of Scott's Emulsion of Pure Cod Liver Oil with Hypophosphites in Wasting Diseases is shown by the accompanying statement from D. C. Freeman, Sydney, Aust.:"Having been a great sufferer from pulmonary attacks and gradually wasting away for the past two years, I affords me great pleasure to testify that the above medicine has given me great relief, and I cheerfully recommend it to all suffering in a similar way to myself. In addition I would say that it is very pleasant to take. Any Chemist can supply it. A. S. Watson & Co. (Limited), agents in Hongkong and China.—(Adv.)"

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NIGHT PORTERS and WATCHMEN are continually on duty.

R. TUCKER, Manager. Hongkong, 12th February, 1893.

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suppresses the pains or insomnia caused by Neuralgia, Gout, Migraine, Asthma, Cough, Fatigue of the Brain, Nervous Irritation, Mental preoccupations, the heat of climate, etc. Follet's Syrup procures a deep sleep analogous to the normal sleep; its employment does not expose to any of the inconveniences of opium or of morphia.

It is the best form for the administration of Chloral; its preservation is perfect and, thus prescribed, it does not irritate. (Formula of professor BOUCHARD.)

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